servation percentage for award of dealerships is as under:

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) . . .	25%
Physically Handicapped etc. (PH)	7%
Defence Category (DC) . .	7%
Freedom Fighters (FF) . .	5%
Others (Open) . . .	55%

Increasing demand for LPG connections

3456. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for LPG connections for domestic use is increasing day by day;

(b) what steps have been taken to fulfil the demand;

(c) how many new connections have been given in Gujarat and other States from 1985 to July, 1987, year-wise;

(d) what is the number of persons registered from 1st January, 1986 to 31st July, 1987 in the districts of Baroda, Surat, Broach, Rajkot, Bhavnagar and Amereli;

(e) how many of them have been sanctioned LPG connections; and

(f) how many are on the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Efforts are being made on a continuous basis made on to augment availability of LPG and necessary related distributorships structural facilities like bottling plants and distributorships with a view to meeting the LPG requirements of the consumers;

(c) The number of customers enrolled during the period from April 1, 1985 to March 1987, in Gujarat and other States were 3,73,389 and 27,97,434 respectively.

(d) to (f) The district-wise details of applications registered and LPG connections released are as under:

District	Applications received from 1-1-1986 to 31-7-1987	Number of LPG connections released from 1-1-1986 to 31-7-1987	Waiting list as on 1-8-1987
Amreli	1533	869	3230
Baroda	84024	35020	48278
Bharuch	39551	14414	11951
Bhavnagar	2856	13564	18553
Rajkot	12359	15358	42733
Surat	86330	36216	67514

Circuit benches of High Courts

3457. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of representations have been received during the period from 1st January, 1981 to 31st July, 1987 from various Bar Associations and organisations for the establishment of circuit benches of High Courts in various States;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) how many circuit benches have been set up during the above period;

(d) what is the programme for opening circuit benches, in various States from 1st August, 1987 to 31st December, 1988; and

(e) how much expenditure is likely to be incurred in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Statement-I indicating demands made by different bodies so far for establishment of circuit/permanent Benches of High Courts, at places other than their principal seats, is attached. (*See* below).

(c) Statement-II showing the places where Circuit Benches of different High Courts exist at present, is attached. (*See* below).

(d) Circuit Benches of High Courts may be established by the Chief Justices with the prior approval of the Governors of the concerned States.

(e) The entire expenditure on establishment of Benches of High Courts in States is met from the budget of the concerned States.

Statement —I

High Court	Places at which Benches demanded
1. Allahabad	Western Uttar Pradesh, Meerut, Gorakhpur, Agra, Bareilly, Bulandshahr.
2. Andhra Pradesh	Guntur, Centrally located southern districts of Andhra Pradesh.
3. Bombay	Pune.
4. Calcutta	North Bengal (Siliguri), A&N Islands.
5. Gauhati	Agaratala, Imphal, Kohima and Shillong.
6. Gujarat	Rajkot, Surat, Baroda.
7. Himachal Pradesh	Mandi, Hamirpur.
8. Karnataka	Hubli-Dharwar, Belgaum, Guibarga.
9. Kerala	Trivandrum, Calicut.
10. Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal, Raipur, Rewa.
11. Madras	Madurai, Coimbatore, Guddalore.
12. Patna	Purnea, Gaya, Muzaffarpur.
13. Punjab & Haryana	Amritsar.
14. Orissa	Sambalpur, Balangir, Berhampur.
15. Rajasthan	Udaipur, Ajmer.

Statement-II

Circuit Benches of High Courts exist at the following places:—

S.No.	Name of High Court	Places where Circuit Benches have been established
1	Caicutta High Court	Port Blair (Andaman & Nicobar Isiands)
2	Gauhati High Court	1. Imphal (Manipur)
		2. Agartala (Tripura)
		3. Shillong (Meghalaya)
		4. Kohima (Nagaland)

Government nominees on the Board of Directors of Peerless

@3458. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to nominate two Government Directors by the Reserve Bank of India on the Board of Directors of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited to regulate the directions of the company as per the directions of the Supreme Court given in its judgement mated to the company and

(b) if so, whether the names of the Directors have been finalised and intimated to the company; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) is in the negative, by when is the selection going to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The Company Law Board has issued a notice to Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited to show cause why Directors be not appointed on their Board of Directors under section 408 of the Companies Act, 1956. No final decision has yet been taken.

@Previously Unstarred Question 2972 transferred fro the 20th August, 1987.

Report of 'Sondhi Committee' on capital goods

@@3459. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of the Sondhi Committte on capital goods; if so, what are the main recommendations of the committee;

(b) whether it is a fact that the committee has recommended that import of second hand equipment under the Open General Licence should be banned forthwith; and

(c) what decision, if any, has been taken on the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The report of the High Powered Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Mantosh Sondhi to review the methodology to be adopted in examination and processing of applications for import of capital goods has been received by the Government only recently. The report is under examination of the Government.

@@Previously unstarred Question 3070 transferred from the 20th August, 1987.